

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 4, with the following:

This application is based upon and claims the benefit of priority from the prior Japanese Patent Application Applications No. P2003-026110, filed on February 3, 2003; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 11, with the following:

The present invention relates to an automatic transmission apparatus for a vehicle, which reduces a load for changing a range position of the automatic transmission by adding an assisting force to an operating force being input to a select lever, ~~whereby reduces a load of a passenger~~ thereby reducing the load for the passenger.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 20, with the following:

With reference to Fig. 1, the control inputting apparatus 2 comprises a select lever 7 and a lever box 8 supporting the select lever 7, and is configured to change a range position, such as a P range (Parking), an R range (Reverse), an N range (Neutral), a D range (Drive), and an L range (Low) of the automatic transmission 1 by controlling the select lever 7.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 6, line 13, with the following:

With reference to Fig. 1, [[3,]] the first cable 4 transmits the operating force generated at a time when the driver operates the select lever 7 to the power assisting apparatus 3. The first cable 4 is structured such that one end is fixed to a lever side arm 15 provided in the lever box 8 and another end is fixed to an input side arm 16 provided in the power assisting apparatus 3, thereby transmitting the operating force generated by controlling the select lever 7 to the power assisting apparatus 3. Most ~~part~~ of the first cable 4 is arranged within the instrument panel chamber 14.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 12, line 17, with the following:

In the case of integrally forming the control inputting apparatus and the power assisting apparatus, the electric motor is formed in a protruding shape by arranging these apparatuses within the instrument panel chamber. Accordingly, since the freedom of

arranging ~~doing~~ the layout is reduced, and the electric motor is arranged near the ears of the passenger, an operation sound falls on the passenger's ears. However, in the case that the control inputting apparatus 2 and the power assisting apparatus 3 are arranged separately and the power assisting apparatus 3 generating a loud operation sound is particularly arranged on the floor panel 13 close to the passenger's feet, as in the present embodiment, it is possible to further reduce the noise.